

ALEXANDRIA:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 5, 1860

Congress devoted vesterday to the President's Message, which was received soon after the Houses were called to order. In the Senate, it called forth a speech from Mr. Clingman, and some remarks from Mr. Crittenden; and in the House of Representatives was referred to a special committee of ed to report at an early day some plan for the adjustment of the present sectional diffi-

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Was sent into Congress yesterday, and furnished to our city readers, at an early hour after its delivery, in an extra sheet. This extra accompanies the present number of the Gazette for the country.

Of course we will not undertake from the hasty reading that we have been able to give this Document, even if we had the space toto express our approval of its general patriotic tone and spirit, especially in reference to the condition of our domestic affairs. As was expected, the President properly throws the blame, for the present excitement in the South, upon the unfriendly action of the Northern States, on the subject of Slavery; -but whilst doing this, he is clear and decided in his condemnation of the assumed Constitutional right of Secession, and equally decided in his opinion that the result of the recent Presidential election is not of itself just cause for disunion. His whole argument on the important questions which are now before the people, will be read with interest, and will probably command the approval of a large majority of the people of the country, outside of two or three States. Whilst enunciating the doctrine that this is a national government and not a mere league, that its Constitutional laws ought to be obeyed, and that no one state can, without violating the Constitution, break up the government-the President comes to the conclusion that coercion is neither constitutional nor politic; and he recommends the adoption of certain explanatory provisions to the Constitution, settling its true construction with regard to slavery and the Territories, as a way of preserving Brigham will, no doubt, have a Mormon Re-

The exhibit made of our foreign relations is generally satisfactory. The remarks upon the Finances, the Tariff, &c., &c., will be read no doubt with attention, and it is not necessary to do more for the present than to thus briefly refer to them.

. It is that part of the Message which gives the President's views on the subject of Union, Secession, and kindred matters, which will excite most public interest. We do not know, that upon a careful consideration of all the points made by the President, we shall agree with him in every particular. But we repeat that the tone and spirit of his remarks are conservative, union-loving, and patriotic; and add that if all sections of the Country could approach the matters in dispute in the same spirit, the controversy union be restored.

Nicholas P. Trist, esq., has furnished to the New York World, several letters from Mr. Madison addressed to him (Mr. T.,) in the years 1832-3, and never before published. So far as the assumed "right" of Secession is susceptible of being extinguished by the authority of Mr. Madison, it has been completely done. Of "Nullification" Mr. Madison writes that "the coming generation will look back with astonishment at the infatuation" which could countenance it; and he calls Secession a "twin heresy." He says that "both ought to be buried in the same grave"-and that those who talk in favor of Secession "seem to have lost sight of the and essence of free government; and that no | should be immediately repealed. While right to disregard it belongs to a party till released from it by causes of which the other parties have an equal right to judge. In the event of an irreconcilable conflict, not of rights, but of opinions and claims of right, the Rochester Union and Advertiser, hails force becomes the arbiter."

mors from Washington, giving the most contradictory accounts of what is transpiring there among the Members of Congress, and making all sorts of statements evidently, for the most part, upon no reliable authority whatever. It is only certain that the "Conservative" wing of the Republican party has been awakened to a conviction of the emergency of the crisis; that the ultras of that party-how many of them there are we do not know-are indisposed to "back down," as they call it-that most of the Southern members are opposed to present | Southern orders countermanded. The stop-Secession and to the precipitate course of page of the Birmingham iron and steel South Carolina, but are determined that works is the worst blow to that village which something must be done to secure future prospect is that many other branches of peace, or to bring about a peaceable disso- business in Connecticut, and other Northlution;-that the South Carolina members and a few others are for instant separate state secession; -that patriotic and conservative men, friendly to the prescriation of a Constitutional Union are consulting together -and that many propositions are on foot de- in his own district of Pendleton, S. C.: signed to restore harmony to the country. For the rest, "no man can tell what a day may bring forth."

Secession movements, secession speeches. secession meetings are the order of the day in South Carolina. The contention seems to be, amongst the public speakers, who shall be the most ultra. "Fort Moultrie" is a subject of considerable discussion.

the Northern canals.

THE CONSERVATIVE men of the South feel that they have nothing to reproach themselves with, in view of the present unhappy condition of affairs. They supported and voted for Constitutional Union men, at the last Presidential election, whose success would have been acquiesced in by the whole country; they have done all that they could do to prevent the "precipitation" of a revolution; they have argued and protested against the "secession" of any one or more States, at the present time, previous to general consultation; they have urged the trial of all attempts to effect a settlement upon a constitutional basis, within the Union, before it is broken up; they have forewarned the Northern States of the inevitable results of a persistance in unfriendly language, legislation, and action. None of the evils to come, if come they must, can be laid at their doors. They must now wait patiently for events as they arise; but still, even in gloom and darkness, hope for the best.

Senator Douglas, in his speech in Washington city, on his return there, on Saturone member from each State, which is expect- day last, insisted on the faithful obedience to the fugitive slave law by the Northern States, and hoped there is still love of country enough to save the country. He then spoke in terms of warm eulogy of the late speech of Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, and assed the several resolutions of the Georgia latform of 1850 in review. He particularcondemned the State enactments known as personal liberty bills, and stated that in spite and disregard of them Congress should go on and do its duty and remove all obstructions that may lie in the way of the execution of the National law. Mr. Douglas conjured all to let asperities now drop and day for extended comment, to do more than all ill feeling be buried, and let all real patriots strive to save the Union. As Mr. Lincoln has been elected, said Mr. Douglas, according to the Constitution, let him be inaugurated, and so long as he shall discharge his duties in a constitutional manner he ield to the strictest accountability.

One of the rumors from Washington, ein culated in different quarters, is that Senator Crittenden, of Kentucky, as well as other national conservatives of both parties, have had an interview with the President; and it is believed a thorough understanding has been established between them. It is said that the recommendations of the President will be sustained by Mr. Crittenden and other statesmen who have the confidence of both the North and the South.

The electors of President and Vice Presiient meet on Wednesday, to-day, at the capitols of their respective States. If any vacancies are found to exist, they will be filled by ballot. They then proceed to vote by ballot for President and Vice President of the

The Mormons, it is said, are delighted with the prospect of a dissolution of the Union, and Brigham Young takes great credit to himself for having prophesied it. public established as soon as the Union

Movements in the North,

The final action of the Vermont Legislature, before its adjournment on the 27th ult. was to refer the whole subject of the revision of the Personal Liberty Laws to the Commissioners on the revision of the laws of the State, with instructions to report whether the present law upon the rendition of fugitive slaves is in conflict with the constitution of the United States. The Commissioners of Revision who are to take the matter in charge, are ex-Judges Milo L. Bennet, Pierpoint, and Isham, and Hon. Andrew Tracey, formerly member of Congress-all known to be men of strong conservative ten-

A writer in the Boston Courier makes an effective appeal for the Union. We copy an extract :- "Our answer, then, to the question whether the Northern nullification laws | want of authority, usually assigned by all his are right, must be that they are nor. They might be settled amicably, and peace and violate the constitutional bond: they repudiate our obligations solemnly pledged; they | He has, however, requested the clergy to apdefy the authority of the government of the | point a day themselves. nation, and are LEGISLATIVE TREASON-treason enacted into a law."

> A Republican celebration took place at to the Chairman of the Republican State | ton's store, last Thursday week. From some were made by Col. Curtin, Governor-elect of the State, and other prominent Republicans, nearly all of whom referred to the existing almost instantly. sectional crisis, and expressed conservative views in relation thereto.

Mr. Curtin, the Governor elect of Pennsylvania, made a speech in Philadelphia on minister poison to his master. A man nam- a year. Saturday evening, during which he referred to the nullifying laws of that State. The as the person who was poisoned, or the one speaker doubted whether any of her legislative enactments interfered with the statutes of the United States; but, if they did, great principle, that compact is the basis the principle was maintained that they Pennsylvania thus yielded to the national government, she expected every State, both North and South, to be as faithful as herself to constitutional obligations.

That highly influential Democratic paper. the proposition of Hon. Thurlow Weed, of the Albany Evening Journal, in regard to The Northern papers are filled with ru- | the repeal of obstructive legislation, and the proffer of compensation to the owners of slaves who shall lose their fugitives in the day.

The secession excitement at the South is telling with fearful effect on business at the North, especially in the New England States, where fanaticism has so long had full sway The Hartford (Conn.) Times hears of large establishments reducing work, which it may not be proper now to name. In Bridgeport, upwards of 1,000 employees are out of work, and in New Haven 2,000. Dunbar's hoon skirt manufactory has stopped work. The Plantation Hoe Co., and the Southern Carriage Co., both of Winsted, have had large Birmingham has ever experienced. The dicted. ern States, will be prostrated during the coming winter.

MR. CALHOUN.—The following toast was given by the Vice President of the United States, at a public dinner on the 4th of July,

By John C. Calhoun .- "The State and General Governments-each imperfect when viewed as separate and distinct governments; but, taken as a whole, forming one system, with each checking and controlling the other, unsurpassed by any work of man, in wisdom and sublimity."

us who would wish to dissolve this Union, tively trifling sum of money, almost any people and the States that he labored to they will unite themselves. Of that choice or to change its republican form, let them number of witnesses required may be obstand undisturbed as monuments of the tained to swear to any circumstance named this than that sterner mode of righting now reached a period when this controversy The kind of weather we have had for the safety with which error of opinion may be to them, of which in reality they do not pos- wrong, that people less intolerent of oppres- must be settled. All the great interests of past few days, will soon close navigation on tolerated, where reason is left free to combat sess the most distant acquaintance. — Corr. sion have often resorted to for less cause. — society require it. The business relations of it."-Jefferson's Inaugural Address, 1801. of N. Y. Times.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

'To show the very age and body of the TIMES." On Thursday last, a huge black bear at

tempted to cross the Pennsylvania railroad, in the vicinity of Mifflin, when he was struck by the cow-catcher and several wheels passed over him, amputating his left foreeg at the shoulder, and cutting off a portion of his left hind-leg. Notwithstanding bruin's disabled condition, he fled into a ravine and upon being pursued and cornered by the engineer of the train who was armed with an axe, made such desperate resistance that the latter thought it the safest policy to beat a retreat. The pursuit was resumed the succeeding day, and bruin finally despatched.

A large meeting of the people was held at Jackson, Mississippi, a few days ago, at which Governor Pettus, Senator Brown, Judge Gholson, and others were prominent speakers. All were in favor of resistanceyet firm, decided, and temperate action .-Senator Brown says that he is in favor of staying in the Union if sufficient guarantees will be given for the protection of the rights of the South. Gov. Pettus thought the slaveholding States ought to be consulted, vet desired Mississippi to assert her independence anyhow. All of the speakers desired a consultation and conference with the slavehold-

A statement is going the rounds of the papers to the effect that Indiana, among other Northern nullifying States, had enacted laws nullifying the fugitive slave law .- | with Great Britain are not so satisfactory. This is a mistake. Indiana never enacted such a law-never elected a Governor, till now, but would have vetoed any such enactment; and in every instance the fugitiveslave law has been enforced.

The Secessionists of Alabama do not appear to have their own way entirely in directing the action of that State. They are meeting with determined and formidable resistance from the co-operation party.

Mr. Douglas' announcement, that he has buried all animosities and is ready to speak and act for the Union, has drawn about him

The New York Herald estimates the ex penditure in New York city alone, for Rifles and Pistols at \$1,500,000, within the past month, all of which have been purchased in

the Southern States. Some of the political friends of Mr. Breckinridge waited on him on Saturday and tendered him a serenade, which he declined. All the floating speculations as to Mr.

Lincoln's Cabinet are unauthorized. He has given no indication as to men.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

A paper is being circulated in Norfolk, for ignatures. Those whose signatures are canvassed are chiefly young men who are skilled in military tactics, and are known to be thorsouthern in feeling. simply a pledge to be ready, at a moment's warning, to start for a given point-Richmond-and there join a force of chosen men, who are to battle in the front ranks in defence of southern rights. It is supposed that a similar movement is on foot in every part of the State. This organization is distinct from the regular military organization of the State.

ROBBING THE MAIL .- Wm. A. Northern was tried before the Federal Court at Richmond, on Tuesday, and found guilty of rob- ported. bing the mail at Warsaw, Richmond county, where he acted as deputy postmaster. The jury signed a recommendation for a pardon. The accused, who was out on bail, was carried to the county jail after the ren-

The Virginia Dare, built for the Virginia and Liverpool line, arrived at Richmond, Va., last Saturday morning, after a rough passage from Baltimore, where she was built. The ship is commanded by Captain Cole, and is named after the first white child born in Virginia. She is intended for the Richmond and Liverpool line, and will commence taking in her cargo of tobacco to-morrow.

Gov. Letcher has declined a request of the clergy in Richmond, to appoint the 21st of December as a day of fasting and prayer .-He bases his refusal upon the grounds of predecessors, and not on anything having connection with the present state of affairs.

The Tappahannock Southerner, says that Mr. Joseph B. Evans, of King and Queen county, Va., met with a shocking and fatal Philadelphia, on Saturday, in compliment accident, while riding in a sulky, near Carle-Committee, Col. A. K. McClure. Speeches unknown cause the horse took fright and precipitated Mr. E. against a stump, literally disemboweling him, and causing his death

> A negro and a white man were committed to Caroline county jail, on Tuesday, the white man having induced the negro to aded Mason is mixed up in the affair, either who caused the same to be administered.

Richard Ellis, of Bedford co., died very suddenly on Monday last, while he was partaking of his evening meal. He had attended Bedford Court the same day, and up to the moment of his death appeared to be in his usual health.

William Swindler, postmaster at Frankfort, Hampshire county, vice J. F. Moore, deceased. John F. Swink postmaster at Springyale, Fairfax County, vice Geo. A. Rougee,

A shark, nearly eight feet in length, was captured near Tappahannock, Va., last Tues-

LANDING OF SIX THOUSAND AFRICANS IS CUBA.-HAVANA, Nov. 25.-Never since have been a resident of this fair Isle have I before heard of the landing of so many cargoes of Bozales (Africans.) in the same space of time, as have come to my knowedge within the last six or eight days. The intelligence of the several landings reached me with such rapidity, following so close one upon the other, that I was at first chary of giving it credence, and consequently in the last two or three of my letters to you, have avoided all allusion to the subject, feeling that it was wiser to have my information fully confirmed before giving circula-

within the last eight or ten days.

matter of utter impossibility.

Mr. Jefferson.—"If there be any among stand, when I tell you that, for a comparation of the ties that bind together the to determine with which of the two divisions their duty; nay, honor and good faith re- man, he would not have deemed it necessary

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The British Standard speaks very disrespectfully of the dialect affected by certain Germanizing religious teachers in the English pulpit. It says:-"German Rationalism has not only corrupted our divinity, but our language. It has introduced a jargon, a gibberish, a jumble which fills the ear, while it famishes the mind. The disciples of this cognize its right to judge for itself, I am also New School, of the very humblest intellectual pretensions, may be found ringing only when the infraction is of such a charchanges without end on the 'objective,' the 'subjective,' the 'inner life,' and a multitude or when the danger of such an infraction is of mystical nothings, equally strange and for- | so imminent that secession must be immediate eign to the idiom of pure English.

A letter to the New York Times, from Paris, contains the following: -"Fanny Ellsler is now at Berlin, at the bedside of a sick sister, wife of the son of Prince Adelbert, of Prussia. The marriage of the young Baron de Barnim, eldest son of the Prince Adelbert, to Mlle. Therese Ellsler, sister of the famous danseuse, and something of a danseuse herself, created a great sensation at the time; but the union has been a happy one, and the relatives long ago became reconciled to the plebeian intruder."

News from Paraguay, is to September 20. Improvements of various kinds were progressing. Houses are going up in all directions, the streets are well lighted, several workshops have been added to the arsenal, the railroad is advancing to completion, and ther is a new steamer on the stocks, built entirely by Paraguayans. There is every confidence that the United States claims will be settled with strict justice, but the relations

One of the most fatal explosions of vellow fever on record occurred about two months ago on the coast of Africa, and is to consult and agree upon such guarantees described in the London Lancet of the 3d as in their opinion will secure their equality ult. In the Island of McCarthy on the and their rights within the Union. Gambia, the malady suddenly broke out without any traceable cause, and attacked all the inhabitants, not one of whom recovered, except Capt. Frazer, a naval officer, in command at the station.

Gen. de Lamoriciere, "the hero of Castel Fidardo and Ancona," as he is facetiously called by the Union, has returned to Paris, on a leave of absence of ten months. When should be supported, otherwise he should be many of his old enemies, as well as his a prisoner in the hands of Sardinia, Lamoriciere gave his word of honor not take up arms against Victor Emmanuel for one year, and on that condition was restored to liberty.

The Emperor of Austria was robbed of a casket containing a large sum of money and a packet of important papers while on his way to Warsaw. The money was restored through the agency of a Capuchin friar, to whom the robber confided his crime My own opinion is, that the Southern States in the confessional, but the papers are still

The Duchess of Sutherland, whose income is said to be two millions of dollars per annum, has the materials of which her dresses are made expressly woven for her. The remnants are then destroyed, to prevent its coming into meaner use. The Duchess can

A letter dated Paris, Nov. 10, says:-"The American Minister again threw open his hosnitable doors a few evenings ago, and brough together, in a very brilliant and very agreeable reunion, the American colony in Paris, with a light sprinkling of diplomacy and of those, engaged in the production of that other foreign elements.'

Over 100,000 pounds of egg-shells, reduced to an impalpable powder, and commonly called cascarilla de duevo, are used it is estimated, by the Cuban ladies annually, as "lillywhite," for the face, neck, and arms .-This is exclusive of all the cosmetics im-

A despatch received by the State Depart-

ment from our Minister in China states that the treaty had been signed by the Emperor. The allied forces had reached to within 12 miles of Pekin before he was prevailed upon to attach the imperial seal to the document. The unseen labor of London is worth a hundred fold of that which is seen. That | States, whose population was not homogeneunseen labor becomes visible enough in its fruits, though those are rarely traced to be considered as different and hostile. They their origin. Mental labor feeds London

Rachel Greenfield, the colored vocalist, better known as the "Black Swan," was recently announced to give three entertainments in Havana. At the first she was hissed and could not go on, at the second she in these co-States, but in whatever Territory was hooted, and the third was abandoned.

Building societies are now most important institutions in England. It seems that there are now about 2,000 of them in existence, and that their paid up capital is not less than forty million dollars.

A phamphlet, under the title of "Europe Without the Pope," is announced as shortly to appear in Paris from the pen of M. Louis Venillot, formerly editor of the ultra-montane organ L'Univers.

a scandalous scene which occurred in Belfast, | termine upon some common course of action a few weeks since, at a meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in For-

The breach between the supporters of the party of France grows wider daily.

The "Revolution" at the North.

There is fitness and justice too in the retribution falling where the wrong was plotted. Under its severe discipline the North should and may learn wisdom. We theremore business orders will go North. They nage of the South shall cease, when thousthe cry of "bread or blood" shall be heard in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and a score of other cities, when the multitudes sade against the South has brought them, and to what their demagogues have led the formation of geographical parties, and the people of Virginia, acting through a it is their duty, to await and see the action This you will the more readily under- against any course of conduct leading to a Convention and in their sovereign capacity, of their sister States along the border. It is in 1858. Had Governor Letcher known his make free and left independent. But better I do not permit myself to doubt. We have

Rich. Whig.

Senator Hunter's Letter .- [EXTRACT.] For all the reasons which I have given,

and for others not now enumerated, I believe that each State, acting in its sovereign capacity, has a political right to secede from the Union, when it believes that there has been a palpable and dangerous infraction of the Constitution or compact. But whilst I reof opinion that the act is morally justifiable acter as to make secession | the only remedy. to be a remedy at all. Therefore it is that when I was questioned during the recent canvass to know whether I would regard the election of Lincoln, by constitutional means, as a just cause for secession. I replied that for such a cause I would not advise Virginia to secede, but that if any State did deem it just cause, and for that reason secede from the Union. I hold that she had a right thus to act, without question from me, and that there was no rightful authority anywhere to force her back within the jurisdiction of the General Government. In the case of Virginia, where, as a voter and a citizen. I have a right to speak, I would say, that although such an election, in my or inion, affords just cause for serious apprehension, and makes it prudent to prepare the means of self-defence, in case of the worst results, still, I would not desire to break up this Union, without at least an honest effort to preserve it, upon terms consistent with the rights and the safety of the South. To preserve the Union of the Constitution I would be willing. I trust, to make any personal sacrifice. I therefore desire and advocate a conference amongst the Southern States

There might be found in constitutional amendments, which either declared the construction of the Constitution to be such as we now give it, or which still more explicitly defined and protected that equality and those rights, or better still, if it could be had. which made a new distribution of power, so as to give each section the means to protect its rights. That the circumstances of the case, and the condition of the times are such as to justify the Southern States in demanding new securities or a re-institution of the old ones, would be allowed, I think, by the Northern mind itself, if we would have the decision of its reason, uninfluenced by passion. If the Southern States could obtain terms which would secure their rights within the Union, then they ought, as I think, to stand together to maintain and preserve it. have a common destiny, and ought to stand together either to preserve their rights within the Union, or if that cannot be done, then to defend them without the Union, for in either move they would be able to protect themselves. Should, however, the Northern States refuse either to give the South new securities, or to re-institute the old ones. then the question presents itself in a new

In that event it is hardly to be doubted States will withdraw immediately and irretrievably, to be soon followed by all, or most staple. The question, then, for the border slaveholding States will be, not whether the Southern States would have been safe if all had remained in the Union, but to which division of the Confederacy they ought to attach themselves now that it was severed .-In such an event, I have not the shadow of a doubt as to what ought to be the course of Virginia and the other Southern border States. If they unite with other slave States they would confederate as equals, and with those whose population was homogeneous, and whose interests were identified with their own. If they united with the North under such circumstances they would constitute a helpless minority in an association with ous with theirs, and whose interests would would be treated as inferiors by the dominant majority, and considered as having acquiesced in that position by the choice which they had made. In the Southern Confederacy they would find an outlet for their surplus population of slaves, not only might be acquired by that Union. Under that Government, too, they would find effectual protection for their property and institutions. In the other Confederacy their slave population would indeed be "penned in" and "localized" within their own bor-

The time has now come when Virginia ought to be acting. It may possibly be within her power to mediate the differences and save both the Union and the rights of the South. There ought to be a conference of The London papers contain an account of the Southern States to see if they cannot dein this regard. If this cannot be done, and the Southern States cannot obtain such guarantees as would rotain them all within the David, the composer, has received from Union, then comes the other question upon the French Emperora pension of 2,400 francs | which Virginia must decide in her sovereign capacity, and that is, with which confederacy will she unite her destiny. Such a deimperial policy in Italy and the clerical cision would not necessarily occasion war. If all the slaveholding States were united in one Confederacy, and the non-slaveholding States in another, the consequences of a war would be so disastrous, and the consideration in favor of peace would be so strong, as probably to prevent a resort to force, unless, indeed, the passion engendered by the occasion should be so high as to gain the mastery fore hope that for the present at least no over reason. Indeed, if there were two such Confederacies, each standing upon a Constihave chosen to ignore us in Government, let | tution, the same, or nearly the same, with us ignore them in Trade. Let us, as the that of the United States, I would conceive New Orleans Bulletin advises, give the sec- of a league between these two, whose bonds tionalists and fanatics a taste of that irre- not being so close as those of the present pressible conflict which they have been so Union, would avoid the most exciting sublong preaching up, which they will feel as ject of dispute, and which might yet embrace they now little dream of. When the patro- enough of the objects of common interest to place them in the position which Mr. Jefferands and tens of thousands of Black Republison assigns to the United States under the licans shall have been turned adrift, when existing Constitution, which, he said, made "them one, as to the rest of the world, and several, as to each other." But it is idle to propose remedies unless we know the temshall begin to see what this insensate cru- per with which such proposition would be the Union, when we have hearts and hands received by the non-slaveholding States, with whom it lies to save the Union, if it is to be them, they will rue the day when they gave | done at all. If we judge of that temper by their votes to a sectional candidate for the the past conduct of the party which now Presidency, when they turned their backs | yields the political power of that section, and stopped their ears to the warnings of we can hardly expect either reason or mod-Webster and Everett, of Bell and Critten- eration from them. It is consoling, however, den, and of the devoted band of patriots to know that the issues of our destiny are in tion to statements capable of being contra- who entreated them to pause in their career | the hands of Providence who makes and unof making war upon one-half of their fellow- makes the prosperity of men and nations at we have not power, will and strength enough I am now, however, in possession of "proof, strong as Holy Writ," that from six to eight thousand Bozales have been landed at various points on both sides of the Island at various points of the Island at various points on the Island at various points o cities and villages, when hunger is ready to domestic safety, but also the peace of the It is difficult to believe—indeed, to speak burst through even the stone walls, and the country, if they will stand together. It is mary importance on our part, and that is to the truth. I cannot believe—that any one of cry of vengeance against the demagagues time, however, that some movement was made act promptly and vigorously and endeavor bin, well known to many of our citizens, has the truth, I cannot believe—that any one of the truth, I cannot be truthed the truth and the truth ted without the consent, if not with the ed their passions shall arise from myriads of States, and I do not see why the Legislature connivance of the Spanish authorities of the | throats, and desolation shall reign through | of Virginia may not initiate such a movevarious jurisdictions, from the Captain of workshops that are now busy with life and ment at its approaching session. If, howevthe Purtido (District) to the Governor or resounding with the hum of industry, they er, nothing can be effected in the way of con-Lieutenant-Governor of the jurisdiction; will then remember with anguish and regret ciliation and adjustment, and a separation than the border States have, in the wrongs mit him to make addresses at school examiand yet to prove this would, perhaps, be a the dying counsels of Washington against of the States should take place, it will be for and evils complained of. It is their interest. nations, &c. His addresses were fustian and

Union holds together without an adjustment of the dispute, the same difficulties will recur with each succeeding Presidential election, shaking the foundations of credit and property, and filling the public mind with anxiety and uncertainty, until the people will accept any change of government, which promises to give more stability and security to their peace and their property. These quadrennial agitations seem to increase in intensity, and must inevitably break down the government at no distant day, if something cannot be done to quiet them. If this state of irritation between the sections should become chronic, the question will be not how to preserve it, but how to get out of it .-When the future which lies before us is so clouded by gloom and uncertainty, we all must feel that the time has come for Virginia to put her house in order. No man can now tell what a day or an hour may bring forth. An accident might fire a train, whose explosion would part the Union asunder .-But, be the issue what it may-peace or war! -and no man desires the former more earnestly than I do-may the noble old Commonwealth be prepared to play the part that becomes her. Certain I am that I speak the common voice of nearly all her sons, when I say that, where she leads we will follow: and should she in her sovereign capacity throw her banner to the breeze, we will rally to it as the emblem of our allegiance, whether it bears upon its folds a single star, as the representation of her undivided sovereignty, or a whole constellation to mark the numbers of a confederated system. When she speaks her voice will be heeded at home, and, I trust, respected abroad.

Letter from George W. Brent, Esq. Mr. Brent advocates the early call of a State Convention. He maintains the right of secession, but does not desire its exercise without first exhausting remedies within the

ALEXANDRIA, VA., December, 1st, 1860. N. TYLER, Esq:

My Dear Sir: - Your favor, expressive of the belief that the present condition of our public affairs calls for a Convention of the people of the State, to consider upon the necessities of our condition, and requesting my opinion as to the propriety of holding such a Convention, has been received.

Whilst I have no objection to communicate to you fully and frankly, my views on this subject. I feel reluctant to offer them to the public. Neither my position nor my influence would justify me in coming forward and offering my views to the people of the State. But, since you have requested this of this me, and having ever cherished for you a personal regard and friendship, and having generally co-operated with you in all political action. I now send them to you, and leave it to you to make such use of them as your judgment may dictate. The fact cannot be disguised that the des-

trembling in the balance. The election of Mr. Lincoln by a Northern party, organized upon sectional views, and hostile to the rights and institutions of the South, and the integrity of our Constitutional Union, threatens to plunge our prosperous and growing country into a scene of strife and civil war. But in addition to this source of danger, we are exposed to another, equally fearful. The South has in her own limits the elements of disunion. Virginia and the border States are exposed to a double fire. To them there is danger, both in front and rear. Whilst Abolitionism rears its dark crest and threatens us from the North, they are at the same time exposed to the lowering clouds of secession and disunion, which now cover and overspread the political heavens in the South. In this fearful conjuncture of our national affairs, I cordially respond to your view, in invoking a Convention of the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Let the sovereignty of this time honored State speak out in an authoritative form. This is no time for "masterly inactivity." Retreat is impossible. We must advance and meet the danger. Virginia, in so doing, will be but acting in conformity with her traditional renown and policy. At the close of the war of independence, when the thirteen States were exhausted and pressed down with debt, without credit, capital, manufactures or commerce, Virginia took the initiative steps in the call of that Convention, which framed our Constitution and organized our glorious Union, under which we have so happily prospered. At a time so pregnant with evils

in our national progress, when the Consti-

tution and the Union are imperilled, it be-

comes the imperative duty of Virginia to in-

terpose her counsels to stay the rushing tide of desolation and destruction whether it sets upon us from the North or the South. That the South has endured and suffered much wrong at the hands of the North, that she has borne with it in patience and forbearance, is true. It is equally true that the election of Mr. Lincoln manifests a still further aggressive spirit on the part of the North to the just rights of the South. But whilst all this is true, I am not one of those that believe that either the honor or the interests of the South demand a secession of one or all of the Southern States from the Union. I do not, however, deny the right of a State to secede, "in a case of a deliberate, palpable, and dangerous exercise of powers." not warranted by the Constitution, should she deem it compatible with her honor, safety and interests to do so. But the right is one thing, the propriety of exercising it, is another. I cannot see how secession is a remedy for any wrong suffered or evil threatened .-The same wrongs and evils will not only be inflicted and suffered out of the Union, but they will be visited upon us in a more intensified and frightful form. My own view is that our remedy is in the Union. The Constitution is ours-the Union is ours. We have rights, cherished rights, guarantied and protected by them. Under their operation we have exhibited a degree of success which has astonished the world and excited its admiration. We have thirty-three States bound together in international peace, intercourse and strength; and in the Union we have grown great in numbers, wealth, manufactures and commerce. Shall we break up the Union and imperil all this? Shall we abandon all these rights and blessings under brave enough and strong enough to strike for, maintain and delend them in the Union? The South is equal to her own protection in the Union as well as out of the Union. The choice then simply is between a brave, manly and loyal defence of our rights under the Constitution and in the Union, or a weak and timid desertion and abandonment of those rights by a withdrawal from it. If

There is one thing which I deem of pri- as follows: and action, by the Southern States. Let Virginia appeal to her sister States on the Gulf to forbear all hasty and precipitate action. They have substantially less interest about the country soliciting persons to perquire it, that they should stay their perilous to make any reply to his letter." course, and meet their sister States in a Convention, to confer together to devise such means of security for the future, as are conthe country are obstructed by it, and if the utional rights of the whole South. Let then

the united South move in one serried column. Let them appeal calmly, but firmly, and with determination, to their brethren of the North, to retrace their steps and repeal all their unjust laws tending to injure the South and assail her rights and acknowledge such guaranties as will for the future. remove all cause for agitation and anxiety on the disturbing subject of slavery. There are brave and gallant spirits at the North. who have ever "been faithful among be faithless," who have ever been true and loval to our rights and our cause.

Is it just, brave or generous to abandon them now, until we have exhausted every peaceful measure for redress? It seems to me that our duty is plain. Exhaust first every peaceful remedy. Proceed in kindness, but with firmness and determination. Should all this fail. Should the Northern States refuse to repeal their unjust legislation, and continue to war upon us, then we can with a safe conscience, appeal to the judgment of an enlightened civilization, and invoke the approval of the "God of battles" in behalf of our cause.

The Union is Peace, Disunion is War .- Let us therefore affectionately appeal to the States. North and South, to stay all rash action, before it is too late. A Union once severed cannot be re-united. On the verge of disunion let us implore them to pause. "Hell's descent is facile, but to revoke the step and escape to the upper air, is a work of untold labor.

Let then a Convention of the people be called. To that Convention, the honor and interests of this old Commonwealth may be entrusted. There the sovereignty of the people will be represented, and its voice will command the affectionate and loyal response from all Virginia's sons.

To Virginia alone, they owe all primary allegiance, and whenever she commands. and wherever she points the way, they, as her true and sworn children, will faithfully follow. I have no doubt that Virginia. true to the traditions and spirit of her past history, will meet the impending crisis with that calm dignity and devotion to honor, truth and right, which animated and characterized her conduct in other times, whenever oppression assailed her rights, her honor and independence.

Very truly, your friend, GEORGE WM. BRENT.

The Policy of South Carolina.

We believe that the policy of South Carolina is neither more nor less than that which the Enquirer foreshadowed previous to the election, when it affirmed that Virginia would be "dragged" into revolution by the seceding States. It is not from any fear that Virginia will become a free State in the mere event of South Carolina seceding, and still affording a market for her slaves, that dictates the policy now under consideration. Not at all. But the object is to cut off the trade that Virginia has heretofore had with tinies of this country, at this time, hang the Cotton States, to which she has sent her surplus slaves; and thereby, under the influence of these pains and penalties, induce her to make common cause with them. That is the prime object. If the views of the Enquirer itself be correct, and it wisely interprets the motives of the Governor of South Carolina, then, the anti-slavery statesmen of the country, who for years have lent all their energies to circumscribe and confine within its present limits the institution of Slavery, believing that this was the most effectual means that could be devised to "choke it off." and "kill it out,"-have been greatly in error; they had much better have agreed to diffuse and extend it all over the country .-But there is another reason we can imagine. to influence South Carolina to the policy now spoken of. She wants negroes cheaper than they can be bought from Virginia, and when she gets out of the Union, she can import them from Africa, at perhaps, two hun-

dred dollars a head. Let us suppose the Union dissolved by the act of one, two, three, or more of the Cotton States. Let the example of South Carolina be pursued, and the removal of any slaves from Virginia to these States be interdicted by their Legislatures, and do we not perceive that in the course of a few years the slave population of Virginia will augment beyond any reasonable demand, and deteriorate so much in value as to remove the stimulus that now operates upon our people inducing

them to raise slaves. To our mind, this appears to be the most effectual means to rid the State of the institution; for, when slavery shall no longer be profitable; when all means for sending the surplus out of the State shall be cut off, and this class of persons becomes burdensome to the people, they will abolish the institution. Nothing could be more obvious.

But the last point we make in the extraordinary article of the Enquirer, is based upon the intimation that "the domestic peace" of the new Southern Confederacy of Galf States is to be "preserved by preventing emancipation in Virginia and the border States, so that a perpetual slave region shall intervene between the Cotton States and the abolition States of the Northern Confederacy." This, we are told, "preserves peace within the limits of the Gulf States" which are not to be in "immediate contact with the free-soil States." But what, we inquire, is to become of the States, Virginia included, that are to be in "immediate contact with free-soil States," forever? The Cotton States are very kind to assign us the post of danger, making a rampart of Virginia, to enable them to 'preserve their domestic peace." But, is Virginia altogether willing to this arrangement? We have seen that whilst these States are mindful enough of the "preservation of their domestic peace," they are not so careful about ours. With a recklessness that is most reprehensible, they have disregarded our "peace," interests and safety,-and, according to the Enquirer, would legislate so as to "protect" their interests further, at the expense of ours.

We must enter a demurrer to such a course of procedure, whilst we respectfully suggest that if these States shrink from "contact" with free-soil States, which would jeopard their "domestic peace," they should have some little consideration for us who are in this category. They can scarcely expect us, in the face of such avowals as this, to go for Disunion, and make our territory the Northern boundary of a Southern Confederacy, to secure-not our own "domesic peace." but that of the Gulf States, where "Cotton is King," and demands that to his court, tobacco and grain-growing Virginia shall pay tribute. For ourselves, we will none of it, but if need be, will advocate an independent position for the Old Dominion, or a central Confederacy consisting of Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, Missouri, Maryland and Delaware. - Lynch-

burg Virginian. WHO IS JAS. S. BRISBIN?-This question is answered by the Blairsville (Pa.) Record,

"It will be seen below, that James S. Bris-Brisbin, when here, was regarded as a conceited, vain, silly fellow—and prided in the cognomen of the "Irish Orator,"—who went bombast. He pretended to be a Democrat

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